# thecollegian INDEPENDENT VOICE FOR KANSAS STATE UNIVERS



vol.118 No.87

Tomorrow:

Low: 35°F

Thursday: High: 52°F Low: 26°F

Up, down or gone? See our writers' head-to-head on the minimum wage policy Cyberdates? Yes! Students are finding love through an online dating service

The talk on campus Your conversations continue today in the Fourum and online

#### New Hale Library exhibit honors Polish heroes who risked lives in Holocaust

**Darrington Clark** managing editor

As the scissors snipped and a purple ribbon gently floated to the ground, students, faculty and even officials from Poland witnessed the grand opening of The Righteous Among The Na-tions, the newest exhibit in Hale Library, on Monday. The event commemorated the 40th anniversary of the Dow Center for Multicultural and Community Studies.

"This is an international traveling exhibit, here throughout the month of February on the second floor of Hale library," said Darchelle Martin, Hale Library events coordinator. "This was done through a sponsorship from the College of Education, the School of Leadership Studies and K-State Libraries."

The Righteous Among The Nations is a gallery of photos, maps and information describing the Polish citizens who risked their lives during the Holocaust to save and assist Jews. A path on the second floor of Hale Library allows visitors to journey through the years and meet the faces of the volunteers whom the Israeli government later named Righteous Among the Nations.

"Poland has, by far, the most citizens with this title," said Debbie Mercer, dean of the College of Education. 'This exhibit highlights those individuals."

Distinguished guests attended the ribbon cutting ceremony and gave remarks. Provost April Mason gave a short speech and introduced Paulina Kapuscinska, Consul General of the Republic of Poland in Chicago, to the crowd of about 50 people.

"We are deeply honored to have her with us," Mason said. Kapuscinksa came to the event to honor the work of the people who produced the exhibit. Kapuscinska presented certificates of recognition to Megan Felt and Sabrina

Murphy, who founded the basis of the display when they were high school students in Uniontown, Kan. Along with cofounder Elizabeth Cambers, Felt and Murphy created the website "Life In A Jar, The Irena Sendler Project," which highlights the life of the most famous of the Righteous Among The Nations, Irena Sendler.

"Megan and were students of mine," said Norman Conard, a Uniontown teacher who was also awarded a certificate of recognition. "They found out about Irena for a project, and when they first found it, I said, 'I've never heard of her."

Felt and Murphy began researching Irena Sendler when they were 14 and 16 years old, respectively. Now both out of college, the two travel and spread news of Irena's work via their website, irenasend-

ler.org.
"We decided as a group

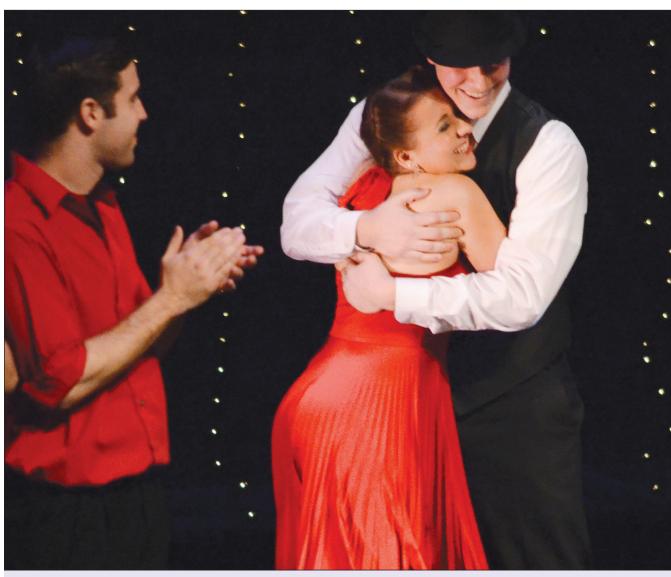
HALE | pg. 8



photo courtesy of Jacob Canady

**Lori Goestch**, dean of Hale Library; **April Mason**, provost; **Paulina Kapuscinska**, Consul General of the Republic of Poland in Chicago; and **Debbie Mercer**, dean of the College of Education, cut the grand opening ribbon of The Righteous Among the Nations exhibit in Hale Library. The exhibit describes the efforts of Polish citizens who helped Jews during the Holocaust at great personal risk.

## K-Staters compete for stardom onstage



Student body vice president Grant Hill and Lexie Casey, senior in elemtary education, embrace after hearing that they are the winners of season five of Dancing with the K-State Stars on Monday night at McCain Auditorium as Blair Kocher, K-State admissions representative and alum, applauds. "I thought the dancing was fabulous," said Rachel Tate, senior in hotel and restaurant management.

Zaldy Doyungan

The Union Program Council hosted the fifth annual Dancing with the K-State Stars competition in McCain Auditorium on Monday evening.

The event, which began in 2009, places well-known K-State students onstage to show off their dance moves before a large audience and a panel of experienced judges. This year was no different. The fifth "season" of Dancing with the K-State Stars attracted contestants from all corners of campus, from the volleyball team to the admissions office to the upper echelons of student government.

Student body vice president Grant Hill, senior in account-

ing, had no dance experience before competing as a K-State Star, but he still took home the trophy along with his partner Lexie Casey, senior in elementary education.

"I thought I'd do something outside of my comfort zone, Hill said. "It was definitely nerve-wracking, but luckily you can't see the audience while dancing."
Hill said he was nervous

before stepping out onstage but quickly forgot the audience was even there.

"I saw Dancing with the K-State Stars last year when one of my colleagues did it," said Kirsten Andrews, contestant and graduate student in counseling and student development. "I've grown up dancing and watched ["Dancing

with the Stars"] and I've always loved dancing, so when I got asked to do it I was really ex-

Andrews showcased country-style swing mixed with two-stepping, a style that is popular around campus. Students enjoyed a wide variety of dance techniques covering well-known genres such as the salsa and the waltz, as well as lesser-known styles such as the merengue and the rumba.

Along with the new contestants, this year's event featured two special guest judges brought in by UPC — Chelsie Hightower, "Dancing with the Stars" professional, and Sasha Farber, Hightower's dancing

Farber is known for being a choreographer for the shows

"Dancing with the Stars," where she currently appears as a troupe dancer in season 13 of the show, and "So You Think

You Can Dance." Hightower was a contestant on the fourth season of "So You Think You Can Dance" and is remembered for her Emmy-nominated performance to a revision of "Bleeding Love" by Leona Lewis. Hightower is currently a regular dance partner, choreographer and trainer for the "Dancing with the Stars.

The third judge was David Ollington, associate professor in the School of Music, Theatre and Dance and five-year veteran judge of this event.

All of the judges said they

STAR | pg. 8

#### K-State helping students use, identify skills

**Elizabeth Hughes** 

Most people are familiar with the terms introvert and extrovert, or Type A and Type B, as a way to describe an individual's natural tendencies. What students might not be familiar with, however, are the words "activator," "connectedness" or "woo," in regard to the strong points of an individual's unique personality. The Gallup Polling Agency uses these terms, along with 31 others, in its StrengthsQuest personality assessment specifically to identify students'

For the first time in university history, K-State has chosen to devote an entire week to strengths development as well as teaching students how to capitalize on their talents. Coordinated by a newly assembled student organization known as Strengths Advocates, the goal of this week is to educate students about strengths, the power of knowing their own and their peers' and the positive impact it can have on any organization or community.

"It's just to get people thinking about how strengths impact your entire life,"

SKILLS | pg. 8

#### New student group aims to serve community

Jakki Thompson staff writer

At the end of the fall 2012 semester, five students came together to found the group Wildcats Serving Others as a way to give back to the community.

"We are a new group focused on community service," said Jordan Surgnier, president of WSO and sophomore in biology. "We are a group that doesn't just focus on one kind of community service. When we get new members, we ask what they are passionate about. We want our members to be passionate about the community service they are providing to the community.

Hayley Finch, publicist of WSO and junior in elementary education, said there are student organizations that focus exclusively on just serving the K-State campus. Finch said this is not one of those groups.

"We are a group of students who wanted to get involved in our community, by serving our community," Finch said. "This group is one that is passionate about so many different

WSO | pg. 8



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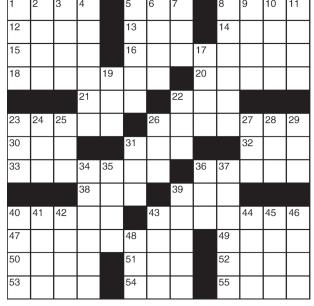
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#### Logan's Run | By Aaron Logan







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ber where you can be contacted. The number will not be published.

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#### THE BLOTTER ARREST REPORTS

Sunday, Feb. 3

Jonathan Scott Cargal, of the 1900 block of Lilac Lane, was booked for violation of protection orders. Bond was set at \$1,000.

Mouhamadou Wilane, of Leonardville, Kan., was booked for driving with a canceled, suspended or revoked license and exceeding maxiumum speed limits. Bond

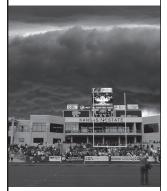
Jeffrey Scott Watson II, of the 900 block of Vattier Street, was booked for criminal damage to property. Bond was set at

Compiled by Katie Goerl

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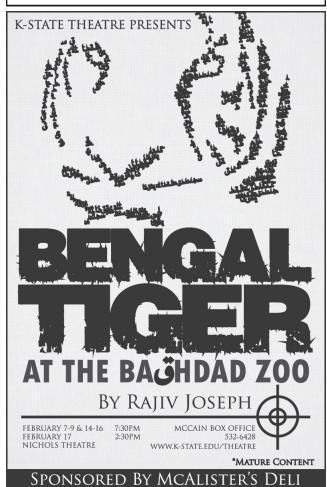
Students, faculty, and staff may submit the names of potential nominees for this award to department heads or deans.

Nominations should be submitted as soon as possible so that the nominees have adequate time to prepare the appropriate materials

Deans must provide their nominations to the Office of the Provost by March 1, 2013.

Student input is a valuable part of the nomination process, so use this opportunity to honor those who have served you as an outstanding advisor.

More information is available at (www.k-state.edu/ provost/enrichment/awards/advisingguide.html).





the collegian tuesday, february 5, 2013

#### Minimum wage vital to employees; lowering it would end in disaster



When I first heard the pitch for this story, I was shocked. Lower the minimum wage? That makes about as much sense to me as leaving the cast of the TV show "Buckwild" in charge of running our country.

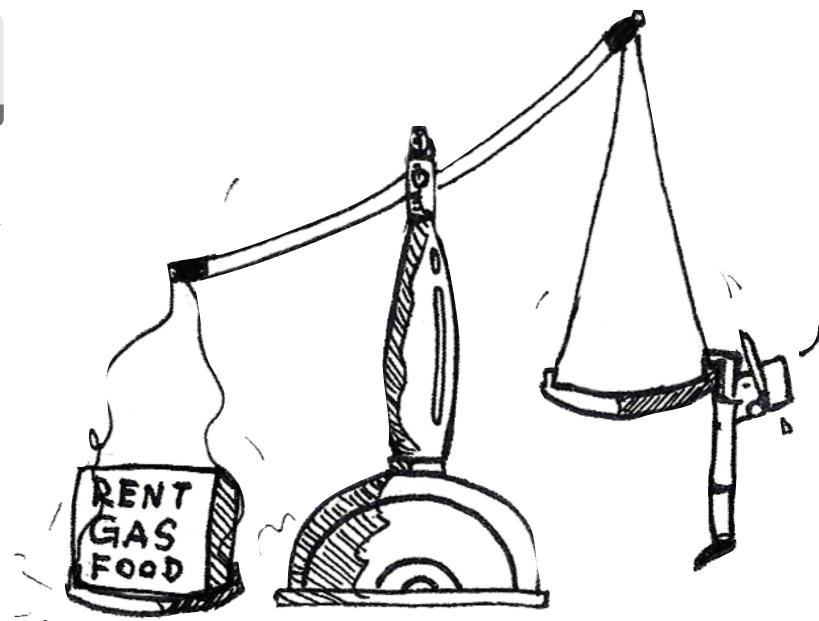
Some suggest the minimum wage is a burden on businesses, but there are so many reasons why the minimum wage is vital to employees and should not be lowered. First, the cost of living increases every year. If it is constantly getting more expensive to live in the United States, should we really make it harder for people to do just

Also, if people have less cash in hand they will be less willing to spend it to end our ongoing recession. Finally, workers who don't feel like they are well-compensated probably don't work as hard as those who are happy with their wages.

The only outcome I can see from lowering the minimum wage is the imploding of the American workforce, and anyone who wants that to happen would probably support Shain from "Buckwild" in a bid for presidency. That, for anyone who is unsure, is

The current federal minimum wage is \$7.25 an hour, which for someone who works 40 hours every week, translates into \$15,080 a year (before taxes). According to city-data.com's information on Manhattan, Kansas, the median gross rent in Manhattan was \$712 a month in 2009, which turns into roughly

\$8,500 a year. Assuming a person lives alone and works only one job, they have already eaten through more than half of their pretax income just to put a roof over their head. That



leaves a little over \$6,500 to take care of all other expenses for the year including groceries and transportation.

The minimum wage should not be decreased not only because it would make it even harder for people get by, but also because if it was decreased people would have less money to put into our already struggling economy. Lowering the minimum wage,

in my opinion, would extend the recession in the United States for much longer than we would want.

The lowering of the minimum wage would also lead to worker backlash. Taking away a portion of someone's wage, regardless of how minute, is like saying, "Your time is not worth as much as we thought." Who would want to work as hard as they had before, after

they are basically told that they aren't a valuable asset? I know that I would decrease my productivity by the same percentage that my wage had decreased, just to be fair.

The simple fact of the matter is that the minimum wage is not what it used to be. According to raisetheminimumwage.org's Question and Answer page, in 1968, the minimum wage was \$1.60,

which translates to about \$10.27 in 2011 dollars with inflation factored in.

The minimum wage has increased by \$2.10 in the last 10 years, which is a step forward. Lowering the minimum wage in any way would be like saying that workers in America are not worth the money. This would, in turn, make Americans think twice about where they spend their

Lineart by Parker Wilhelm

decreased wages, possibly deciding that it's not worth their hard-earned dollars to save the American economy.

It's a vicious circle that starts with lowering the minimum wage and ultimately ends badly, no matter how you look at it.

Zach Foley is a freshman in education. Please send comments to opinion@kstatecollegian.com.

# Minimum wage laws unproductive and ineffective, should be abolished



I recently returned from an incredible semester spent in America's distant, more attractive sibling: Australia. My experiences there gave me a new perspective on – among other things - minimum wage

While studying at the University of Canberra, I worked part-time at a college pub near the school. Although this

required knowing that alcohol poisoning is bad. Moreover, thanks to Australia's obscenely high minimum wage, the job paid an impressive-sounding \$23 an hour.

Because our dollar is currently worth less than Australia's, this ended up being a fantastic salary when I got back to the US. It was considerably less remarkable, however, when I was actually in Australia.

Unfortunately, it turns out that doubling everyone's wages doesn't make everyone twice as rich, it just makes everything twice as expensive. Vending machines, for example, charge \$4.50 per

than \$35 for a buzz cut.

I learned more about minimum wage laws while traveling around New South Wales. I met two young Germans who had come to Australia through an amazing program called WWOOF, or Worldwide Opportunities on Organic Farms. In exchange for helping out on a small farm, travelers who sign up with WWOOF can obtain free room and board all over the world and learn how to grow food in the process. However, because the work is unpaid, minimum wage advocates are less than thrilled about the idea and are working to shut the program down.

a California farmer who participates in the program, is now "forced to pay his WWOOFers the minimum wage of \$8 an hour if they work more than four hours a day," which "may make it economically impractical for him to use them in the future." Minimum wage laws ostensibly exist to improve existing opportunities. When it comes to WWOOF, however, the laws are simply taking opportunities away.

If this sounds like the exception to the rule, consider that, according to the US Small Business Administration, "Small businesses employ about half of U.S.

meant passing a bartending drink, and I couldn't find a certification exam, it basically barbershop that charged less article, Allan Griggs, Redding article, Allan Griggs, family farm, these firms do not universities of Pennsylvania have secret pits of money that they delight in withholding from their employees. Whenever the minimum wage is increased, these businesses may simply have to employ fewer people, ironically leaving the most downtrodden workers jobless and thus worse off

> Unsurprisingly, there is a wealth of research linking minimum wage with unemployment. A 1981 National Bureau of Economic Research paper by Charles Brown et al. found that teenage employment reliably drops whenever the minimum wage is raised

by a certain amount. In January 2011, a joint

than they were before.

and Chile titled "The Labor Impact of Minimum Wages" found that minimum wage increases have "a significant negative effect on the probability of staying employed."

Conversely, the data that minimum wage advocates have to offer is less than compelling and, frankly, suspicious. A 2006 Show-Me Institute Paper by Dave Neumark says the study "cited most frequently by minimum wage advocates" is a 1994 phone survey of New Jersey restaurants by David Card and Alan Krueger. Sure enough, the Economic Policy Institute think tank on the frontlines of the minimum wage cause has cited this "landmark New Jersey study" as recently as

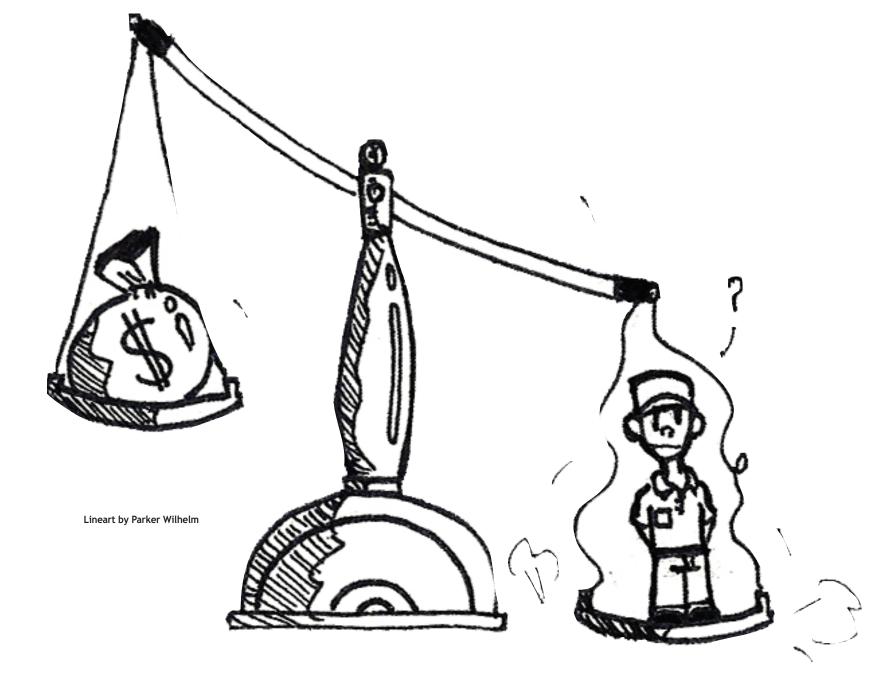
However, in 1996, a different think tank - the **Employment Policy Insti**tute — thought to obtain the actual payroll data from these restaurants. In a blistering 16-page paper titled "The Crippling Flaws in the New Jersey Fast Food Study," it was found that Card and Krueger's numbers bore "no relation to numbers drawn from the payroll records of the restaurants the New Jersey study claims to cover." Tellingly, even the most credible minimum wage advocates have continued to recycle this discredited study for 16 years. The repetition, apparently,

isn't working. Even the U.S. Department of Labor now seems to be aware of the damage these obstructive laws can do. According to the DOL website, exceptions to the minimum wage are now sometimes allowed for "workers with disabilities, full-time students" and "youth under

If the minimum wage benefits the least productive workers, why on earth would those very workers seek to be exempt from it? Likewise, if raising the minimum wage helps the poor, why don't we raise it by hundreds of dollars instead of a petty few?

The answer, of course, is that anyone who subjects these laws to common sense can see that they make none. The minimum wage exists only because it's been imposed on us by utopians who cared more about whether the policy sounded nice than how it would actually work.

lan Huyett is a senior in political science and anthropology.
Please send comments to opinion@kstatecollegian.com.



the collegian page 4 **tuesday**, february 5, 2013

# Single men don't need to despair on day of love

Zaldy Doyungan

Valentine's Day is a day to celebrate the love between two people. The day is full of hearts, the colors red and pink and cheesy lines about love. However, for some people, this is probably one of the worst days of the year. Why? Because these people are not in relationships. It is not Valentine's Day to these people. For them, there is an alternative holiday called Singles Awareness Day.

To some single people, Valentine's Day couldn't come and go any sooner. Many hate seeing people showing affections or watching cheesy movies, because that is all that seems to happen that day.

While some women celebrate their single status by going out to dinner with gal pals or having a movie night, the holiday often leaves single guys out of the celebration

loop.
"I mean, I really don't have a strict regimen," said Geran Wenneker, freshman in biological systems engineering. "I usually just end up hanging out with a bunch of my single friends.

Not all students are as eager to make substitute plans.

'Unfortunately, in the past, I have just sat around wishing I was in a relationship," said Cole Pfannenstiel, sophomore in business.

While Wenneker and Pfan-

nenstiel don't have traditions for Feb. 14, some single males

"The past three Valentine's Days, I've gone out to the shooting range and blown up about 500 shells," said Kyle Colnar, sophomore in business administration. "I think the last Valentine's Day, I blew through \$250-\$300.

While being single on Valentine's Day can save a guy some money in the form of a fancy dinner, roses, jewelry or other traditional Valentine's Day gifts, according to some, the downfalls of being single on the day of love can outweigh the costs.

"It's nice to have someone to

share the day with and not be alone," said Dalton Schmidt, sophomore in kinesiology.

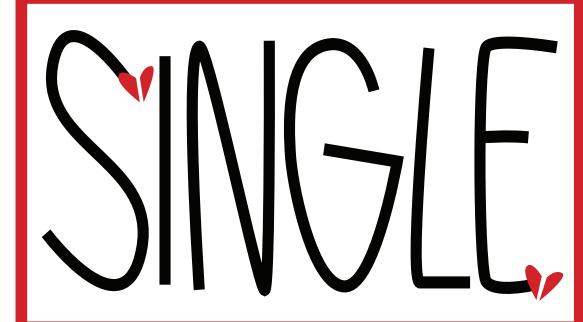
Luke Townsend, junior in finance and accounting, said being single on Valentine's Day is disappointing and can lead to being given a hard time by friends.

"I would rather be in a relationship," Townsend said, "just so you don't have to deal with the horrible jokes people make about being single on Valentine's Day.'

For Collin Wheeler, junior in architectural engineering, there are both positive and negative sides to being solo on

Valentine's Day.
"It depends," Wheeler said. "On one side you could be single and not get any action; on the other, you could get some action, but be broke.

# HELLO my name is



#### Acme Gift prepares for Valentine's Day with flowers, quirky gifts

Belema Ivo staff writer

The non-traditional Valentine's Day gift-giver has options beyond chocolates and bouquets of flowers. Acme Gift, located at 1227 Moro Street, specializes in unique flower arrangements and witty gifts like Manhattan-themed drinking glasses, ketchup-themed cookbooks, uniquely-named lip gloss and

just about anything bacon-fla-

"Every time I come in here, there is always something new," said Megan Lutz, K-State alum and Manhattan resident. "I always came here as a student to get humorous gifts for my friends.

In preparation for Valentine's Day, Acme has stocked up on gifts and flowers for all types of loved ones. According to manager Jenny Willis, who has been with the company for almost a decade, Valentine's Day is always one of the store's busiest days of the

"The store is always filled with flowers for Valentine's Day," Willis said. "Our store is unique because, unlike other florists, we sell our flowers by the stem.

In addition to individual flowers and unique arrangements, Willis works to make

sure Acme carries a wide variety of fun and comical items. "We look through tons of

catalogs and go to gift shows," Willis said. "We pick stuff that makes us laugh, makes people happy and doesn't have to be expensive."

Acme strives to offer oneof-a-kind flowers and arrangements at an affordable cost, even with short notice,

Willis said.

Laurie Jones, Manhattan resident, was on a mission to find funny items for her single adult friends for Valentine's Day in late January. Jones, who recently moved to Manhattan, had never been to Aggieville or Acme before.

"It's retro ... humorous and random, but eye-catching," Jones said.

Laura Ludlow, Acme employee and senior in anthropology, said her favorite perk of Valentine's Day in the shop is reading the funny cards Acme carries. The highlight of her job during the rest of the year, however, is a little more personal.

The people are the highlight of me working here," Ludlow said.



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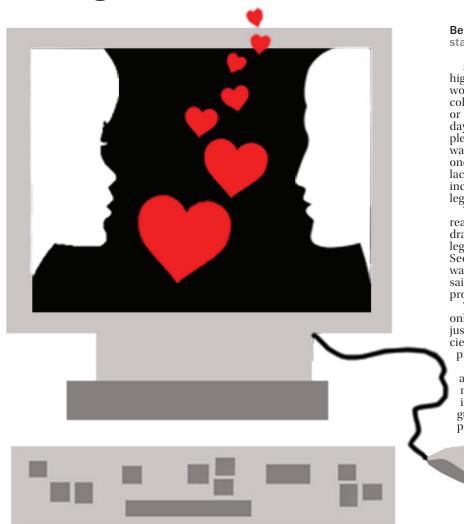




# VALENTINE'S GUIDE

tuesday, february 5, 2013 the collegian page 5

# College students turn to Web to seek significant others



Belema Iyo

As a transition time between high school and the professional world, many young people use college as a time to date casually or to search for a spouse. In today's busy world, work, class and plenty of things can get in the way of finding that special someone. This fast-paced life style and lack of social life has led to an increase in online dating for college students.

lege students.

"I believe that there are two reasons college students are drawn to online dating. First, college students are extremely busy. Secondly, society is moving towards a more online presence," said Donald Saucier, associate professor of social psychology.

The emergence of college online dating does more than just reflect how busy today's society is, according to another professor.

"I view online dating as a positve development in a mass society with high mobility," said Harald Prins, distinguished professor of anthropology.

College students dating online is proof of the increasing trend to go against "traditional" society, Prins said "It shows us just how small our social network really is, seeing as we have to look to cyberspace to find a mate," he said.

Meeting people online instead of at parties, at work or in class can be easier, and help shield people from rejection.

"Human beings have a motivation to affiliate with others and online dating just makes it easier," Saucier said. "With online dating, it is easier to be optimistic, even though evidence has proven that people tend to lie."

Erika Davis, junior in psychology, doesn't plan to use the Internet to date while in college.

"Online dating is not something I would personally do," Davis said. "This is more because of risks. As an actively social person, I prefer to meet people in person rather than in a chat room."

While Davis isn't ready to jump on the college online dating bandwagon, she does know of successful cases of couples meeting online. She said her roommate from her freshman year created an online dating profile. After a failed first relationship through the site, she was matched with another site user. More than a year later, they are still together, Davis said.

The population of Manhattan can also play a significant role in the size of the dating pool and some students' decisions to look online for love.

"In a small college town like Manhattan, it is not irrational for a single lady to look to online dating, especially if she is new to town," Prins said. Websites exist that cater spe-

Websites exist that cater specifically to college students. Datemyschool.com, created in 2010 by Columbia University students Balazs Alexa and Jean Meyer, now has over 187,000 users.

The opening screen of Datemyschool.com boasts, "Mommy won't see you. Beliebers won't see you. Stalkers won't see you. Canadians won't see you," among other promises of privacy. Custom settings allow users to block people from certain schools, departments or people with certain likes and dislikes to avoid unwanted viewers. Students can also streamline their search by selecting traits they want to have in common with their date.

The site features a Twitter-like feed from users, which can be customized to show all users, users near you or only users you've selected. Users are searchable by school, age, location, "looking for" and other identifiers

Only verified university email accounts with a .edu domain can be used to set up accounts. Profiles require a photo to access others' information. Basic profiles and services are free, with upgrades available.

#### Day holds various meanings for LGBT students

Jakki Thompson staff writer

Valentine's Day is the one day a year when people have a legitimate reason to go out into public and show affection. Valentine's Day can also bring awareness to those who don't have a significant other.

In a world of different types of relationships, Valentine's Day has many meanings. For the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community at K-State, students take different perspectives on this par-

ticular holiday.

"To be honest, right now I have no plans [for Valentine's Day]," said Zach Bomberger, freshman in open option.

"This time of year isn't usually the best time for me because, even though I wish I had someone to celebrate Valentine's Day with, I usually don't."

Bomberger said he sometimes takes friends out to lunch or dinner on that day to show them that he cares about them, but he hasn't made plans this year. He is not the only one.

Simone Dorsey, president of LGBT & Allies and senior in family studies and human services, said she didn't know what she was going to do for Valentine's Day.

"I actually don't know yet," Dorsey said. "[My partner] was trying to figure that out with me the other night, but because I hate the pseudo-Hallmark holiday so much, I was no help to him."

Even though Dorsey

doesn't like the concept of the holiday, she said she will still most likely spend the evening having dinner with someone she cares about.

Even though Dorsey and Bomberger aren't necessarily doing anything over-thetop special for Feb. 14, others in the community are. Britt Burr, graduate research assistant for the LGBT Resource Center and graduate student in drama therapy, said she will be spending a quiet night in with her girlfriend Brooke Hain, administrative assistant in the College of Engineering.

"We don't like going out because restaurants are typically crowded with people," Burr said. "And the day doesn't seem as special if you're waiting in a noisy restaurant through half of it. Instead, we are celebrating our Valentine's Day that weekend, and we'll do dinner and a movie. I have a couple other surprises planned, but I don't want her finding out ahead of time by reading the paper."

reading the paper."

Some LGBT community members without a significant other spend Valentine's Day with good friends. Michael Turner, sophomore in anthropology, said he and his friend Emily Navis, senior in

fine arts, planned an evening out with one another.

"We plan on going out to eat or stay at home and make a nice meal," Turner said. "Then we would go out and see some kind of action or horror movie at the theater and then go back to her house and watch sappy love movies and eat ice cream. We are planning something that just kind of mocks the whole idea of the holiday."

Valentine's Day can be a special day for those who choose to participate and celebrate it. To others, it's just another day.

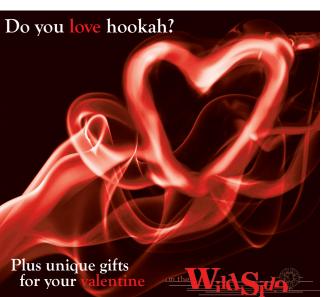
Zan Bertolino, freshman in music education, said he will wake up and go to class, then go home. For Bertolino, Feb. 14 is just another day of being a full-time student.

"You shouldn't need a day in the year when you treat your significant other to a very nice, fancy date," Turner said.















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the collegian tuesday, february 5, 2013

### Basketball team deserves more student support



**Donald Pepoon** 

The K-State men's basketball team had a lot going for them entering their home game against Texas on Jan. 30. They were coming off of a pair of tough losses but still maintained a 4-2 Big 12 Conference record and a top-25 ranking.

Coming home to play a conference rival during a season that still held so many opportunities for achievement, it would be logical to assume the home crowd would show up in full force, right?

But if you took a look around at the crowd at Bramlage Coliseum during that Big 12 matchup, you'd

think the K-State basketball team was scrapping for a bid to the NIT rather than in the midst of a conference title race.

The alumni sections slowly crept to near capacity during tipoff, but the student section remained barren in many areas. Despite having a basketball program then ranked 18th in the nation during a matchup against Texas, a program with which K-State Athletics has recently developed a rivalry, the students only filled up their allotted space by about half.

The lack of student support for the basketball program is absolutely

embarrassing. How could a student body be so disinterested in a major sport that their university has had both recent and traditional success in? The students' apathetic attitude would be more understandable if this team was limping through the season without a glimmer of hope for an NCAA tournament bid, but that is

nowhere near the case.

After a gritty road win at OU, the Cats are now in sole possession of second place in the Big 12 title race, only one game behind KU. It's inexcusable for there to be anything less than a sold-out crowd at every home game for the remainder of the

Much of the student section in remained empty during K-State's game against the Texas Longhorns on Jan. 30 in Bramlage Coliseum, despite the Wildcats' No. 13 NCAA ranking. K-State is ranked second in the Big 12 Conference heading into their game against Texas Tech (9-10, 2-6 Big 12) in Lubbock, Texas, tonight at 7.

Maybe we've become too spoiled with our athletic department's success. The football team just won a conference championship and went to a BCS bowl; maybe their attention-grabbing season has caused some students to forget about the

other K-State teams. Understand this, as a student, you are attending this university during a golden age of athletic success. Having such success in both football and basketball is a rare privilege that not many schools around the country get to experience, so cherish it.

Imagine being a student here during the 2004-05 years, when K-State went to neither an NCAA tournament in men's basketball nor a bowl game in football. I bet those students would have crawled on all fours to Bramlage for the opportunity to support a conference title contender of a basketball team.

The students who have been attending basketball games on a regular basis have been great. It'll still get loud while the Wildcats are on defense and all of the chants are heard clearly, but it could be so much better.

We see it every year for the KU home game — the student section is packed to the brim and Bramlage becomes deafening on big defensive possessions. Why can't we duplicate that on a regular basis?

Student attendance didn't seem to be as big of an issue last year, and this team is much improved over last season's squad. If it's because Frank Martin isn't the one on the end of the K-State bench, then that makes the situation even more embarrassing.

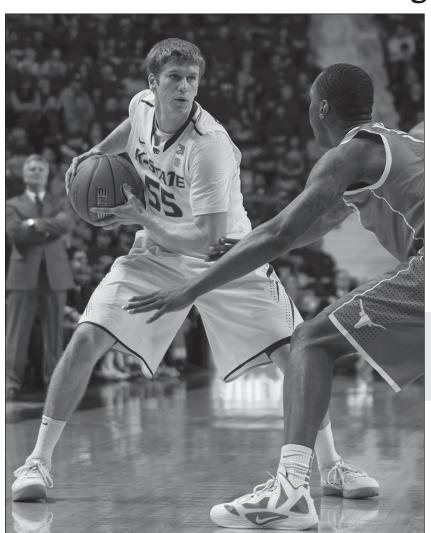
If you aren't aboard the Bruce Weber bandwagon yet, it's about time you hopped on. Weber has proven that he is the right man for the K-State head coaching job; his team has exceeded nearly everyone's expectations. They went into a season filled with doubters who adamantly vocalized their opinion that Weber couldn't find success here.

This basketball team has done everything to earn the respect and appreciation of the K-State student body and fan base. It's time for the support in the stands to match the quality on the court.

When home games were still played in Ahearn Field House, Bob Knight once called the K-State fans in attendance "the greatest basketball crowd in America." The success on the court hasn't changed since those days, only the students have.

Donald Pepoon is a sophomore in marketing. Please send comments to sports@kstatecollegian.com.

#### K-State looks to avoid letdown against low-ranked but threatening Texas Tech



John Zetmeir

After dropping two Big 12 Conference games, the Wildcats are now winners of two straight matchups. On Tuesday the Wildcats will take that streak into Lubbock to take on

No. 13 K-State (17-4, 6-2 Big 12) is currently one game short of a tie for first place in the Big 12. Texas Tech (9-10, 2-6), on the other hand, is tied for second-to-last place.

The Red Raiders have not had much success against the Wildcats in recent years, as K-State hasn't lost to Texas Tech since 2008. However, the Wildcats cannot afford to look past the Red Raiders — Texas Tech defeated Iowa State on Jan. 23, which handed K-State its second Big 12 loss of the season on Jan. 26.

K-State returned to its groove with consecutive wins over Texas and Oklahoma, and one reason for the team's success is junior guard Will Spradling. Since his 0-5 performance against Kansas, Spradling has been shooting 70 percent from a distance. Fellow guard sophomore Angel Rodriguez has been playing some of his best basketball as well. Rodriguez has had 34 assists and only six turnovers in K-State's last five games.

For Texas Tech to have any chance to upset the Wildcats, they will need contributions from the whole team. However, it all starts with the play of junior forward Jave Crockett, the team's leading scorer and rebounder.

Despite coming off of the bench, Crockett plays starter minutes with an average of 26 per game. In the backcourt, it will be the responsibility of freshman guard Josh Gray to compete with the plethora of guard talent that K-State possesses.

The Wildcats' last two games have almost been polar opposites from each other, even though they were able to grab wins in both. Against Texas, the Wildcats played arguably their best game of the season, shooting 47 percent and scoring 83 points with little contribution from senior leader Rodney McGruder.

Last Saturday in Norman, K-State was able to grind out a win over a strong Oklahoma team. Both Texas and Ŏklahoma have already defeated Tech this season.

Road conference games have not been the easiest for K-State so far this season. The Wildcats are 3-1 on the road in the Big 12 play this year, and two of the three wins were decided on the final possession of the game.

Jacob Dean Wilson | Collegian With head coach Bruce Weber looking on, junior guard Will Spradling protects the ball against University of Texas sophomore guard Julien Lewis during the Wildcats' 83-57 victory over the visiting Longhorns on Wednesday night in Bramlage Coliseum.







Tuesday, Feb. 12 Wednesday, Feb. 13 11 am - 4 pm K-State Union Ballroom

One week to go!

#### **Success Checklist**

- □ Create or update resume/cover letter/reference list
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- ☐ Prepare meaningful questions to ask employers
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#### THE FOURUM

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The Fourum is a quirky view of campus life in voices from the K-State community. Positive and humorous comments are selected for publication by the Collegian marketing staff.

Never thought I would see the day when everyone in the union watches The Price Is Right in the food court.

Ugh. That moment when you're all out of printer money but there is an 8-page essay due in 10 minutes.

Almost got caught by Logan yesterday, but fortunately, I ran.

I think the one thing we learned on Sunday night is that purple never fails.

The characters in For The Win should be named Beavis and Butthead

Willy and Billy

Just call them Nerd and Jock... If you are gonna use stereotypes for a comic strip you might as well make it explicit.

If tights and leggings are pants, then briefs are too. Guess what I'm going to start wearing around campus?

The girls wearing riding boots should ACTUALLY ride a horse around campus. Wouldn't that be entertaining?

Dear Universe, we know Monday is going to be a bad day anyway ... but could you make the sun any less bright? Sincerely, The Early Birds

Editor's note: To submit your Fourum contribution, call or text 785-260-0207 or email thefourum@kstatecollegian.com. Your email address or phone number is logged but not published.

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010-Announcements 030-Post A Note 040-Meetings/Events 050-Parties-n-More 060-Greek Affairs

Housing/Real Estate

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#### **STAR** | Student body vice president surprises crowd with 'fabulous' dance

Continued from page 1

were impressed with the talent presented by the contestants in this year's competition.

The caliber has definitely increased from the past seasons," Ollington said. "In the five years I've been judging, this has been the best set of dancers I have seen."

The judging was based on criteria determined prior to

"The guidelines that we scored on were technique, choreography, style and per-formance," Ollington said. "I liked performers that played with the audience, used their space and when they looked like they are the music."

The audience reacted enthusiastically as each contestant took the stage.

"I thought the dancing was fabulous," said Rachel Tate, senior in hotel and restaurant management. "We saw some great surprises, especially Ğrant Hill."

Dominic Ruiz, junior in regional and community planning, was impressed with Hill's moves as well.

"There was a lot of talent I've never seen before," Ruiz said. "I know Grant Hill because he's in our fraternity, and it was interesting to watch because we've never seen him dance before.

Despite his success, Hill said his short-lived dancing career is most likely over.

"I think I'm going to go on a hiatus," Hill said. "Ending on top is probably best."



Parker Robb | Collegian

Sasha Farber and Chelsie Hightower, both judges for Dancing with the K-State Stars and professional dancers who have appeared on "Dancing with the Stars," put on a special performance of their rumba dance on Monday night in McCain Auditorium.

#### HALE | Woman saved 2,500 children

#### Continued from page 1

that we wanted to learn more about the Holocaust," Felt said. "We found a box of clippings, and one of them mentioned Irena Sendler saving 2,500 children. I thought it was a typographical error."

The fact turned out to be true, as Felt and Murphy found out when they began the ex-tensive research that would change their lives.

"When we first found out about Irena, there was no information about her out there," Murphy, a graduate of the K-State College of Education,

Information on Irena was scarce, which alarmed Felt and

"We ended up finding one vebsite that confirmed Irena's actions. From there, it turned into a yearlong project of research," Murphy said.

That research culminated in a play written by Felt, Murphy and Cambers about Irena Sendler's life and achievements.

The play, "Life In A Jar," has been performed internationally, and Felt, playing Irena herself, got to perform the show for Holocaust survivors.

"We've had over 310 performance of 'Life In A Jar' so far," Felt said. "Irena had become our hero."

Murphy and Felt got the chance to work with Irena herself. The two of them traveled to Poland several times to meet and speak with her.

'She was so sweet, we knew it was going to be a great connection. She was like a long-lost grandma," Murphy said. "She couldn't believe that people knew or cared about the Holocaust. She was so supportive and provided us with all the information we needed."

Irena Sendler, as well as cores of other citizens in the 1940s, are recognized in the Righteous Among The Nations exhibit. Every word of text in the exhibit is written in English and Polish.

"Until this project, Irena was unknown, even in her own

country," Conard said. "Thanks to this, her story is internationally famous."

Mason and Mercer also used the event as an opportunity to honor Consul General Kapuscinska, and presented her with a purple K-State scarf in honor of the university's 150th anniversary.

"I'm so honored to be here in Kansas, in the beautiful city of Manhattan," Kapuscinska said. "It's amazing that two students from Kansas were able to rescue this story and share it with the world."

The Righteous Among The Nations exhibit also features cards on which visitors can write or draw their experience on. The cards will be collected by the exhibit officials who view the impact the exhibit has had on its patrons.

Conard said that he was proud to be at the event and to have taught the students who inspired it.

This is wonderful, fantastic," Conard said. "They rescued the rescuer's story."

#### WSO | Service should be 'refreshing'

Continued from page 1

areas of community service — we all bring something to the table about how we want to serve the community."

Finch said one of the most difficult things about doing community service by yourself is that it is hard to hold yourself accountable. Ashley Schwagerl, vice president of WSO and sophomore in hotel and restaurant management, said she loves to volunteer but finds it more difficult to

"I love doing community service," Schwagerl said. "I love finding places to vol-unteer. Nothing can beat the gratification I get from doing community service. I've done it before and I wanted to continue to do it in college. It's a part of who I am."

Andrea Schwagerl, secretary of WSO and junior in life sciences, said community service is intrinsically valuable. She said she has always wanted to leave positive impacts behind, especially after she graduates from K-State. WSO is a way for her to do that.

"I love the feeling of knowing I have helped someone. This group is going to allow me to help many more people," said Katie Boreas, treasurer of WSO and freshman in animal science.

Boreas said she hopes people who join WSO will experience personal growth. Boreas said she hopes that members who join the group because they are required to volunteer will change their mindset and actually want to do community service.

"This group will help improve the lives of others, first and foremost, as well as grow as individuals," Boreas

Finch said volunteer work is a meaningful part of the college experience.

"College and the schooling you receive here is a part of what you take with you once you graduate," Finch said. "I see volunteer work and community ser-

ing. It's something I want to take with me when I gradu-

Echoed by all members who were interviewed was the hope that WSO is able to make a considerable difference on the K-State campus and in the Manhattan community. They said they want to make sure the members of WSO make a difference in the community because they genuinely care, not just because they need community service hours.

"We as an organization want to go above and beyond what is expected of us, as well as making it interesting and fun," Finch said. "We want it to be refreshing for members. Refreshing to work on our own character. Refreshing for new members to give back to the community they learn, work and live in. And refreshing to the people we

surprise with service too." WSO meets every Monday at 7:45 p.m. in the Leadership Studies Building room 113.

#### **SKILLS | Week includes workshops**

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Jessica Conwell, Strengths Advocate and junior in public relations. Students can learn about strengths and how to understand them, or students who already know their strengths but don't really know how to progress after that can find answers."

The week will include workshops that teach resume building, how to talk about strengths in an interview setting and how to apply those talents after identifying them.

Mike Finnegan, instructor for the School of Leadership Studies and the faculty adviser for Strengths Advocates, described StrengthsQuest as an opportunity to highlight "what's right with people." He said completing the StrengthsFinder assessment allows students to identify their top five strengths, based on positive psychology. According to Finnegan, strengths development received attention when students taking the leadership studies introductory course responded with great interest.
"Our leadership students

really said, 'Wow, of all the things you taught in Introduction to Leadership Concepts, strengths was one of the most beneficial in terms

of learning about myself and putting my strengths into action as I take leadership positions across campus," Finnegan said. "We thought if strengths had this much of an impact on our leadership students, what could we do to make this a campus-wide initiative?" The strengths initiative

took flight when a K-State alum invested in strengths development and provided funding for all incoming freshmen of the next three years, starting in the fall of 2012, to receive an access code to take the StrengthsQuest assessment.

"Sending out access codes allows students to complete phase one: strength identification," Finnegan said. "As a campus community, we believe it's our job and our mission to help students develop their strengths."

Finnegan noted a number of reasons for his passion for identifying students' individual talents.

"No. 1, it helps students really truly identify their strengths, and when I say strengths I'm meaning a natural way of thinking, feeling and behaving," he said. "No. 2, they get a chance to really appreciate and value the strengths of their peers. Third reason is that integrating strengths within a team

or organization helps people

work collectively as a whole to accomplish the goals that they aspire to reach."

Finnegan said he hopes students take the opportunity this week to talk to someone specifically about their top five strengths and how they can use these skills in the work they carry out across campus.

"I just encourage students to really be intentional about having strengths discussions with their peers, with faculty and people across campus, and really listen to how K-Staters are leveraging their strengths," he said. "We have some remarkable students out there doing remarkable things, and one way that we can affirm what they're doing across campus is to identify their strengths when we see their strengths in action."

Adrienne Besler, Strengths Advocate and junior in elementary education, also shared her aspirations for strengths week.

"I hope students realize that their strengths really do mean something," Besler said. "I think people get their top five and don't know quite what to do with it, or just think it's a personality test, when really you can apply these things to every aspect of your life. I just hope they can develop their strengths and learn how to apply them through strengths week."





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